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SOAH CONSOLIDATED DOCKET NO. 473-19-1265
PUC CONSOLIDATED DOCKET NO. 48785

JOINT APPLICATION OF ONCOR §
ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY LLC, §
AEP TEXAS INC., AND LCRA §
TRANSMISSION SERVICES §
CORPORATION TO AMEND THEIR §
CERTIFICATES OF CONVENIENCE §
AND NECESSITY FOR 345-KV §
TRANSMISSION LINES IN PECOS, §
REEVES, AND WARD COUNTIES, §
TEXAS (SAND LAKE TO SOLSTICE §
AND BAKERSFIELD TO SOLSTICE) §

BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE

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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
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OF

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

SOAH ORDER NO. 6
GRANTING MOTION TO CANEL NEED PHASE OF THE HEARING ON THE
MERITS, ADMITTING EVIDENCE, AND SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE

On February 6, 2019, Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC, LCRA Transmission Services Corporation, and AEP Texas Inc. (collectively Applicants) filed a joint motion to: cancel the need hearing on the merits currently scheduled for February 15, 2019; set a prehearing conference on that date; and admit into evidence the direct testimony and supporting exhibits of Brent R. Kawakami. Applicants state that they are not aware of and do not anticipate any opposition to the requested relief because no party has challenged the need for the two projects set for hearing in this consolidated docket. Applicants also state that they are authorized to represent that Commission Staff supports the relief requested in their motion. For good cause shown, the joint motion is **GRANTED**. However, if a party appears at the prehearing conference scheduled below for February 15, 2019, and raises a valid point as to why needs issues should be addressed, the Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) may consider rescheduling the needs phase of this hearing to commence at the conclusion of the routing phases of the hearing on the merits. Mr. Kawakami's direct testimony and supporting exhibits originally filed in this docket and Docket No. 48787 are **ADMITTED** into the evidentiary record.

A prehearing conference will convene in this matter at **9 a.m. on Friday, February 15, 2019**, at the SOAH hearing rooms located at the William P. Clements Office Building, 300 West 15th Street, Fourth Floor, Austin, Texas. The prehearing conference will address:

- Potential stipulations on certain issues.
- Ways to streamline the post-hearing process, if necessary.

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- As addressed in more detail below, the status of the “routing” portion of this case, and the availability of the SOAH hearing room for use by parties between the Bakersfield-to-Solstice and Sand Lake-to-Solstice phases of the hearing on the merits.
- Removal of inactive parties in accordance with SOAH Order No. 4. The ALJs note that Elizabeth Christine Graybill and Mary Graybill-Rees have requested that they remain parties to this case although they did not file testimony or a statement of position. The ALJs are inclined to grant that request at the prehearing conference on February 15, 2019, and to remove the other intervenors listed in SOAH Order No. 4 who did not challenge their removal.
- Any other matters pertinent to this case.

There appears to be general agreement in support of, or non-opposition to, Route 24 proposed for the Bakersfield-to-Solstice project. There is less of a consensus with regard to the Sand Lake-to-Solstice project, with up to five routes apparently in contention: Route 320 supported by Oncor and AEP Texas; Route 328 originally supported by Oxy; Route 325 (modified) now supported by Oxy and Concho (COG); Route 41 supported by Commission Staff; and Route 324 supported by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. In accordance with SOAH Order No. 2, the hearing dates to address routing issues for the Bakersfield-to-Solstice project are February 19-20, 2019, and the hearing dates to address routing issues for the Sand Lake-to-Solstice project are February 21-22, 2019. Because routing on the Bakersfield project appears to be generally agreed, the ALJs anticipate that that phase may not take two full hearing days. If that is the situation, the parties may want to use the down time between the two phases to determine if any compromises can be reached with regard to the Sand Lake project. The SOAH hearing room will remain available for the parties’ use throughout February 19-22, 2019.

SIGNED February 8, 2019.



STEVEN H. NEINAST
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS



GABRIEL P. SOTO
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

